IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE In re Application of: KEVIN NOLISH, ET AL. Serial No. 10/782,217 Filed: February 19, 2004 METHOD, APPARATUS AND SOFTWARE FOR PREVENTING Art Unit: 2113 SWITCH FAILURES IN THE PRESENCE OF FAULTS Patent Examiner: Elmira Mehrmanesh Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213 December 5, 2007 Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 13, 2007, please enter the following amendments to the above-identified application as follows.